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JAN 30 2014

**Clerk, U.S. District & Bankruptcy
Courts for the District of Columbia**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Derek N. Jarvis,

Plaintiff,

v.

The District of Columbia *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. **14-142**

MEMORANDUM OPINION

This matter is before the Court on review of the plaintiff's *pro se* complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The Court will grant the plaintiff's application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and will dismiss this action for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(h)(3) (requiring the court to dismiss an action "at any time" it determines that subject matter jurisdiction is wanting).

In this action captioned "Complaint for Relief of: Reckless Government Mismanagement Neglect, Conspiracy to Deprive Rights, Violation of Equal Rights Under the Law, Government Sanctioned Fraud, 42 U.S.C. and Failure to Prevent Act(s)," the plaintiff sues the District of Columbia for equitable relief and monetary damages exceeding \$1 million. The "dispute arises out of how the D.C. Superior Court handled the administration of the Estate of [the plaintiff's father]." Compl. at 2.

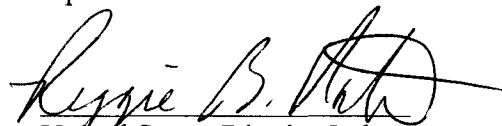
Jurisdiction is wanting because a federal district court is not a reviewing court and thus, as a general rule applicable here, lacks subject matter jurisdiction to review the decisions of a state court. *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332 (general jurisdictional provisions); *Fleming v. United*

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States, 847 F. Supp. 170, 172 (D.D.C. 1994), *cert. denied* 513 U.S. 1150 (1995) (citing *District of Columbia Court of Appeals v. Feldman*, 460 U.S. 462, 482 (1983); *Rooker v. Fidelity Trust Co.*, 263 U.S. 413, 415, 416 (1923)). Because the instant complaint essentially seeks review of the local probate court's rulings, it will be dismissed. *See Chen v Raz*, 172 F.3d 918 (D.C. Cir. 1999) ("Because appellant's complaint seeks review of the Superior Court's decisions in the probate of his late wife's estate, the district court lacked subject matter jurisdiction.") (citations omitted). A separate order accompanies this Memorandum Opinion.

Date: January 7, 2014


United States District Judge